



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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Maryland man indicted for prescription drug fraud

—indictment alleges man obtained pain medicines by fraud—

WASHINGTON - Rodney T. Fahrenholtz, 34, of North Beach, Maryland, was indicted today on charges of health care fraud and obtaining a controlled substance by fraud by a grand jury sitting in the District Court for the District of Columbia announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips and Junius Nottingham, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS - OIG) Philadelphia Region.

The indictment alleges that from January 2006 to the present, Fahrenholtz tricked dozens of doctors into providing him with narcotic pain medications. The indictment states that Fahrenholtz promised doctors that he would not seek pain medication from other sources while under the doctors' care. In spite of this agreement, Fahrenholtz, the indictment alleges, sought pain medication from approximately 60 different doctors in Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia and filled prescriptions for over 5,000 pills at 43 different Washington, D.C. area pharmacies.

In announcing the indictment, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips and Acting Special Agent in Charge Nottingham commended the entire Washington D.C. office of HHS - OIG, and in particular Special Agent Tracy McFadden. They also commended Investigative Assistant Sonja Larsen (HHS - OIG), Paralegal Specialists Diane Hayes, Maggie McCabe, Carolyn Cody, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Virginia Cheatham, who is prosecuting the case.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

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